



INTERNATIONAL ORIENTEERING FEDERATION

INTERNATIONALE ORIENTIERUNGSLAUF FÖDERATION

**Minutes of the General Assembly
held at the XVII IOF Congress
on Friday 24th June 1994
in Varna, Bulgaria**

1. The President of the IOF, Heinz Tschudin, SUI, wished the delegates welcome. He pointed out that the Congress had been called and Congress material sent out to all Member Federations as stipulated in the Statutes; the delegates agreed to this.

Opening

2. A roll call of the delegates was taken. Present were:

Roll call

AUS	Barry McCrae
AUT	Friedrich Woitsch, Günter Fruhmann, Karl Lex
BEL	Jan Herremans
BUL	Nikola Bedelev, Plamen Denev, Pepa Miloucheva
CUB	Angel Lenis Gual Salfrán
CZE	Jiří Štbrt
DEN	Ove Gasbjerg, Gunnar Tamberg, Birthe Helms
ESP	Eusebio Garcia Gomez
EST	Leho Haldna
FIN	Barbro Rönnerberg, Veli-Markku Korteniemi, Petteri Kähäri
FRA	Michel Gueorgiou, Edmond Szechenyi*), Michel Devrieux
GBR	Anne Braggins, Richard Speirs, David Rosen
GER	Dieter Kirkamm, Andreas Dresen, Wolfgang Lübcke
HUN	József Holló, Sarolta Monspart*)
IRL	Faith White, Arthur Green
ISR	Michael Friedlander, Giora Cohen
ITA	Carlo Stassano, Livio Guidolin, Sergio Griffoni



LAT	Rodrigo Slavinsh
LTU	Rimantas Mikaitis
NOR	Jörgen Holmboe, Öivind Holt, Lars Petter Lystad
POL	Lech Trzpił, Pawel Moszkowicz
POR	Luis Sergio
ROM	Constantin Alexandrescu, Ciprian Coman
RUS	Nikolai Vasilyev
SUI	Yvonne Caspari, Thomas Scholl
SVK	Juraj Nemec
SWE	Sören Jonsson, Stig Carlsson, Björn Persson
UKR	Valery S.Glushchenko
USA	Frank H.Kuhn
YUG	Zoran Milovanovic

Council members

Heinz Tschudin, President	SUI	Members of the presidium
Sue Harvey, Vice-President	GBR	
Hugh Cameron, Vice-President	AUS	
John Pearson	BEL	
Åke Jacobson, Vice-President	SWE	
Sarolta Monspart*)	HUN	
Edmond Szechenyi*)	FRA	
Einar Undstad	NOR	

Committee/Working Group Chairmen

Geir Tveit	NOR	TC
Birthe Helms*)	DEN	DPC
Thomas Brogli	SUI	MC
Gunnar Jonsson	SWE	Ski-O C
Lasse Niemelä	FIN	WCG
Anne Braggins*)	GBR	Trail-O

*) national delegates as
indicated by *) above

**Observers**

Clive Allen	GBR
Finn Arildsen	DEN
Flemming Nörsgaard	DEN
Rolf Heinemann	GER
Bruno Gozzellino	ITA
Giedrė Mikaitienė	LTU
Dusko Boskovski	MKD
Jozg Karlovski	MKD
Hans Steinegger	SUI
Lars-Åke Larsson	SWE
Tord Nilsson	SWE

Secretary General

Lennart Levin	SWE
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IOF Secretariat

Berit Pehrson	SWE
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3. The Secretary General announced the voting rights (one non-transferable vote per Member federation), the number of votes required for a simple majority (15 out of the 29 full-member federations present), for two-thirds majority (19 out of 29) and for three-quarters majority (22 out of 29).

**Voting
rights**

4. The following persons were elected to constitute the presidium during the proceedings of the General Assembly:

Presidium

Heinz Tschudin, Sue Harvey, Hugh Cameron, John Pearson, Lennart Levin.

5. Frank H.Kuhn, USA, and Richard Speirs, GBR, were elected to certify the minutes of the meeting.

**Minutes
witnesses**



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| 6. Jan Herremans, BEL, Eusebio Garcia, ESP, and Petteri Kähäri, FIN, were elected tellers. | Election of tellers. |
| 7. The agenda for the General Assembly was approved with the following two amendments: a) It was pointed out that the appointment of organiser of the 1999 WOC would be final, not provisional; b) item 21 (appointment of auditors for the coming Congress period) would be moved up and placed immediately after item 18. | Approval of Agenda |
| 8. It was agreed that the sessions should be open and observers permitted. | Open session |
| 9. It was announced that the countries responsible for auditing the IOF finances during the current Congress period have been Sweden and Bulgaria. The auditing work has been done by Mr. Lars-Erik Engberg, SWE, and Mr. Hristo Ivanov Grouev, BUL. | Auditors |
| 10. The minutes of the previous General Assembly meeting, at the XVI Congress in Filzbach, SUI, were approved as a true record of the proceedings. | Minutes previous meeting |
| 11. The President briefly commented on Council's report on its activities during the current Congress period (see the Biennial Report, pp. 101-109). | Council's Activity Report. |

In doing so, he highlighted the efforts undertaken by Council in preparation for the acceptance of Orienteering within the Olympic Program, and told the General Assembly that the IOF has been given the opportunity to make a presentation at the Centennial IOC Congress in Paris in August, addressing the subject "Sports and Environment".

Council's Report was approved by the General Assembly.

12. Vice-President Hugh Cameron referred to the IOF Committee Reports included in the Biennial Report (pp. 110-128) and asked the delegates for comments. HC then received the approval of the General Assembly for the relevant Report for each Committee in turn.

Committee Reports

13. The General Assembly was presented with membership applications from two federations, namely:

Applications for membership

- The Sport Orienteering Federation of the Republic of Kazakhstan (full member) and

- The Mountain Climbing Association of Macedonia (associate member).

Answering a question from Jørgen Holmboe, NOR, what requirements have to be met in order to be admitted as a member of the IOF, the Secretary General informed the General Assembly about procedural matters, and confirmed that they had been met by the applicant countries.

The General Assembly unanimously accepted the two applicants as members of the IOF, Kazakhstan as full member and Macedonia as associate member.

Immediately after the election, a representative of Macedonia expressed words of thanks to the General Assembly. His speech was warmly applauded. Kazakhstan had announced its intention to send representatives to the Congress but at the last minute it appeared that they were unable to come.

14. Council proposals to the Congress:

14.1 Council's proposal for statutes changes and a new working organisation, as presented in the Congress papers, had been elaborated at the Pre - General Assembly meeting on the preceding day.

Statutes changes; a new working organisation

Vice President Åke Jacobson, SWE, asked for support for Council's proposal and invited the participants of the General Assembly to discuss the subject.

No further discussion was desired and the proposal was accepted.

14.2 Council's proposal, in view of an amendment to article 2.6 of the WOC Rules concerning reproduction of event maps in reports and national federation magazines and publications, was withdrawn since NOR had put forward a very similar proposal.

Council's Proposal for rules amendment withdrawn



B R E A K

14.3 Vice President Sue Harvey presented Council's main objectives, based on its Activity Plan for the coming Congress period:

**Council's
Activity
Plan for
the next
Congress
period.**

Objectives to be met:

- A higher profile for Orienteering, involving improved media coverage and recognition of orienteering as a top sport all over the world.
- Inclusion among the Olympic Sports - high-quality top competitions will always be needed
- Stronger member federations - improved communication, wider participation in IOF work, additional sources of finance through increased external sources of money.
- Further development of orienteering events - improved programme of events, new disciplines, simple rules, harmonisation of rules, possibly simpler rules for new countries and smaller events, new equipment.

The IOF High-Tech Group to examine tracking systems, the possibility of a Council 'events' project team for getting orienteering into regional games, a new 'events' committee, improved maps, newsletter to be introduced in order to improve internal communication are some of the methods to be applied by Council in order to achieve the objectives mentioned.

SH also mentioned that the Committees' Activity Plans are available during Congress, and later at the IOF Secretariat.

The participants were invited to discuss these topics.

The 'price tag' policy was taken up by USA, who queried whether it would be possible to publish sums in advance for what it costs to organise events.



SH pointed out that Council's proposal is merely a broad policy statement; however, the idea behind the price tag philosophy is exactly in line with USA's comment (the IOF will publish the costs for organising a major event when application forms are sent out).

No other delegates wishing to discuss the matter further, Council's Activity Plan was put to vote and carried.

Proposals from Member Federations:

Proposals from Member Federation - WOC Team Sizes

14.4 Development of the World Championships.

A. Proposal about increasing the team size at WOCs (SWE):

The proposal was discussed at length. SWE argued that teams of 7+7 (men and women) would give more opportunities for inexperienced runners, and although there would be additional costs involved, the proposed system was considered to be an investment for the future. It would also allow nations to select teams consisting of specialists for both short distance and classic races and would also meet the requirements for composing relay teams.

NOR supported the Swedish proposal. It was considered a possibility for new runners to learn how the World Championships work and also for nations to select the best runners for the WOC.

Those nations that were against the proposal, among them IRL, stated that such a rules change would strengthen the already strong nations, because small nations could not afford to send 7+7 anyway.

It would also, for practical reasons, be more difficult to organise events. Fewer countries will be able to organise (LAT).

BEL argued that the issue of maximum number of national participants at WOC is irrelevant to the small nations. The important thing to them is a guarantee to be allowed to start in the final with a minimum of at least one participant.



FRA pointed out that SWE's proposal brings a new positive aspect since it encourages specialisation.

GER noted that there would be problems with increased accommodation requirements, should the proposal be accepted.

DEN supported the Swedish proposal, arguing that it would give more runners experience at the WOC.

Geir Tveit of the Technical Committee reported on the cooperation between TC and the World Cup Group to harmonize all IOF rules. During its work the group had never considered raising the number of runners per nation. However, he suggested that SWE's proposal concerning the team size be accepted.

SVK said that the issue of maximum number of runners is of no interest to the smaller nations.

Council stated that it was in favour of SWE's proposal.

SWE's proposal was put to the vote.

Yes: 17. No: 9. Abstentions: 3.

Proposal accepted, but with the stipulation that it would not be introduced until WOC 1997.

B. SWE's proposal concerning the format of WOC relay. Shorter legs to be introduced.

**WOC
relays**

SWE argued that this would introduce a possibility to have more interesting events in WOC. More mental capacity would be needed, the events would be more attractive to the media, and would encourage the development of short distance as a discipline in its own right.

Council supported SWE's proposal.

Geir Tveit stated that the rules group of the TC and WCG is working on adapting this to the rules (legs of varying length + a fixed total time). Geir also stated that these legs of varying length would be "within an agreed minimum and maximum range".

The delegates took note of GT's comment and approved that WOC relay rules be drafted accordingly. This being the case, SWE withdrew its proposal.